

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SIG-03 OES-07 COME-00 L-03
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-----051792 021707Z /46

R 021500Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
INFO SECDEF WASHDC/ISA/FMRA 0428
HQ USAF WASH DC/XOXXI/XOXXP
USDAO CANBERRA AT
NATL HURRICAN CTR MIAMI FL
USAFLO CINCPAC REP CANBERRA AT
MAC SCOTT AFB IL/DOO
CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII 0462
ARRS SCOTT AFB IL/DO
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
54WRS ANDERSON AFB GU
DET 1 1WW NIMITZ HILL GU

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139753

E.O. 11652: ADS - DECLASSIFY UPON COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS

TAGS: OCLR, MY

SUBJECT: INDIAN OCEAN TYPHOON (CYCLONE) RECONNAISSANCE

1. THE USAF HAS A NEED TO CONDUCT INDIAN OCEAN TYPHOON
RECONNAISSANCE. IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH THIS IMPORTANT
MISSION, THE RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT WOULD STAGE FROM
BUTTERWORTH.

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2. MISSIONS FLOWN IN SUPPORT OF THIS PROJECT PROVIDE
TROPICAL METEOROLOGICAL DATA GATHERED FROM OVERWATER
AREAS DESIGNATED BY THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL WEATHER
SERVICE AS HAVING POTENTIAL TO DEVELOP INTO ACTUAL TYPHOONS.
THE DATA ARE USED BY MILITARY AND CIVILIAN (FOREIGN AND
DOMESTIC) AGENCIES TO PRODUCE FORECASTS THAT PREPARE
COMMUNITIES FOR STORM PASSAGE. AS A RESULT, PREVENTIVE

MEASURES CAN BE TAKEN TO REDUCE PROPERTY DAMAGE AND THE LOSS OF LIFE THROUGHOUT THE REGION.

3. MISSIONS ARE TASKED DIRECTLY TO THE 54 WEATHER RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON (WRS) AT ANDERSEN AFB, GUAM BY THE JOINT TYPHOON WARNING CENTER (JTWC) LOCATED IN GUAM. ROUTINELY, LESS THAN 24 HOURS ADVANCE NOTICE IS PROVIDED. AIRCRAFT WOULD BE WC-130 E/H NORMALLY OPERATING FROM BUTTERWORTH, MALAYSIA. FLIGHTS WILL TRACK STORM PATHS AND

MAKE STORM PENETRATIONS AT ALTITUDES OF 700 MILLIBARS OR BELOW; EQUIPMENT ON BOARD THE AIRCRAFT IS PASSIVE WEATHER SENSORS OWNED BY THE UNITED STATES. NORMAL GROUND TIME AT BUTTERWORTH WOULD BE 15 HOURS. THE JTWC WOULD PROVIDE MAXIMUM ADVANCE NOTIFICATION TO USDAO KUALA LUMPUR. STAGING OPERATIONS WOULD BE REQUIRED APPROXIMATELY TWICE YEARLY, EACH LASTING APPROXIMATELY FIVE DAYS.

4. ALL PERSONNEL WOULD BE USAF OFFICERS AND ENLISTED AIRCREW MEMBERS. RADIO FREQUENCIES WOULD BE OBTAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AFM 100-31. THE PROJECT IS UNCLASSIFIED AND ALL PROJECT DATA MAY BE OBTAINED THROUGH THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION CIRCUITS. THIS PROJECT WOULD PROVIDE TYPHOON STORM INFORMATION SUCH AS WIND VELOCITY AND DIRECTION OF MOVEMENT TO THE GOVERNMENTS IN THE AREA. CONFIDENTIAL

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THE DATA, WHEN TRANSLATED INTO EARLY STORM WARNINGS TO THE POPULACE, REDUCES POTENTIAL PROPERTY DAMAGE AND PERSONNEL INJURY.

5. AIRCRAFT DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCES FOR THESE OPERATIONS WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO USDAO, KUALA LUMPUR THROUGH THE MCCLELLAN OPERATIONS CENTER.

6. UNLESS EMBASSY PERCEIVES OBJECTIONS TO THE APPROACH OUTLINED ABOVE, REQUEST YOU SEEK GOM APPROVAL FOR THIS OPERATION. CHRISTOPHER

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